

**STILLWATER COUNTY
COMMISSIONER MINUTES**

<p>Notice: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b).</p>
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**REGULAR MEETING
July 27, 2021**

PRESENT	Commissioners Mark Crago, Chair, Tyrel Hamilton and Steve Riveland (via telephone), members; Shannon Fisher Admin Assistant. Others Present: Jerry Friend, Treasurer; Maureen Wiltshire, DES; Joe Morse, Finance; Forrest Mandeville, Planning; Marlo Pronovost, Stillwater County News; Citizens – Shirlee Keffer, Perry Helt.
PLEDGE	Commissioner Crago opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
MINUTES	July 6, 2021. Commissioner Hamilton MOVED to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Crago SECONDED . No discussion. <u>Motion passed unanimously.</u>
CLAIMS	None Presented
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Maureen Wiltshire announced that there are no fires within the county at this time. There were a handful of small lightning caused fires last week but were quickly put out with the largest being an acre or two. There will be smoke today and possibly tomorrow due to fires in the surrounding counties. Stations are set up with DNRC trucks to assist if there are any fires within the county. Commissioner Crago announced that the agenda meeting for next Tuesday, August 3 rd will be a traveling meeting held in Nye at the Nye Firehall at 6:30 p.m. There is a possibility that Stillwater Mine will be there with a presentation on the tailings pond.
CONSENT AGENDA	<p><u>Planning</u> A) Park City Schools Water Treatment Proposal</p> <p>Commissioner Hamilton MOVED to consent to the consent agenda. Commissioner Riveland SECONDED. Discussion – Commissioner Hamilton stated that this finalizes the agreement for architect and engineering services to the Park City Schools for their water treatment problem. Commissioner Crago added that this is for the Park City water filtration problem exceeding nitrate levels. This a wastewater issue that is causing issues with drinking water. The amount of the proposal is \$14,500.00. <u>Motion passed unanimously</u></p>
REGULAR BUSINESS	<p><u>Planning</u> A) Extension of existing services with CTA, Inc., Cushing Terrell. Commissioner Hamilton MOVED to approve the extension of existing services with CTA, previously Cushing Terrell. Commissioner Riveland SECONDED. Discussion – Commissioner Crago stated that they provide on-call planning services such as subdivision review. Forrest Mandeville stated that he handles the subdivision review portion and ensures that exempt surveys have the correct exemption and that they are indeed exempt. They provide support services to the planning board, planning office and the Commission on any planning issues. Surveys and plats are reviewed for accuracy. This extension is for approximately three months and future services may be split differently so planning may be separate from the examining land surveyor. This extension allows the planning office and the county attorneys to review the new contracts. <u>Motion passed unanimously.</u></p>

Finance

A) Approve contract order for Lumen to move telephone circuits from south annex to west annex. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the contract order for Lumen to move telephone circuits from south annex to west annex. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Crago explained that some of the offices are being moved back into the West Annex from the South Annex. The South Annex currently has some repairs being done. Offices are being moved to become more centrally located. Tentatively the Extension Offices, Environmental Health, the Finance Office and the Commissioners Office are scheduled to be moved. The phone services need to be moved prior to the office moves. Motion passed unanimously.

Board of Health

A) Submission of septic fee calculation checklist packet. Commissioner Crago explained that the Board of Health would like the Commission to review and adopt fee increases and review updates to the septic installer, license renewal and the septic permitting process. This will bring the county current with DEQ and surrounding counties regarding fees. This item will have to be posted in the newspaper and have a public hearing and comment period. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to accept the submission of septic fee calculation checklist package and review the package. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. Discussion – Perry Helt asked what the reason is for the fee increase. Commissioner Crago replied that the reason for the increase is the cost for the services, fuel cost increases and the process as a whole is becoming more time consuming. The percentage of the increase can be discussed at the public hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

Commission

A) Stillwater County Speed Ordinances 2021-01 through 2021-06. Commissioner Crago stated that the ordinances will be noticed in the paper for the next two weeks with the first reading of the ordinances being on August 10 at 10:00 a.m. Please see the attached ordinances for the affected roads and speeds. The reason for the changes are citizen inquiries and concerns about speed limits. The road in the Nye area was prompted by the Stillwater Protective Association. They have been working on this for some time and have the speed traffic signs in Nye and Fishtail. The inquiries have been investigated and will be taken to public hearings for public input and comment. Commissioner Hamilton added that the roads in the Park City area are where there is a lot of new subdivision growth and as the area becomes more populated, traffic needs to slow down as there are now pedestrians and children playing in the area. Perry Helt asked if these speed limits conform to the roads from an engineering standpoint or is this a kowtow to citizens who want to impose a speed limit. Commissioner Crago replied that he does not know about the engineering specifics for each of the roads but that these would be safe and acceptable speed limits for the identified roads. Commissioner Riveland stated that he feels these speed limit proposals are very appropriate for these roads considering the narrowness and the traffic on the roads.

B) Resolution 2021-06 requesting to join the Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve Resolution 2021-06 requesting to join the Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Hamilton stated that a public hearing was held and there were questions raised by citizens. There was a productive meeting between the Commissioners and personnel from the Big Sky Rail Authority and a lot of the questions from the citizens were answered as far as proposed funding which will not affect local taxpayers. Taxpayers will have an opportunity to vote on any proposed increase and taxes specific to Stillwater County. The time is right for Stillwater County to have a seat at the table given the national attention that this rail authority continues to receive. The southern portion proposal for this that runs from Salt Lake to Boise has made it out of a senate hearing at the federal level for funding and will now be presented to the Senate floor. Stillwater County needs to be a part of these discussions due to the potential to affect the taxpayers as it will run through the center of the county. Commissioner Riveland agreed with Commissioner Hamilton further stating that this is not intended or proposed to raise taxes unless it goes to a vote in the county and that we need to have a voice

in this process. Forrest Mandeville asked how many Resolution 2021-06's do you have. Commissioner Hamilton replied that this is the only Resolution 2021-06. The agenda has an ordinance 2021-06 which is different than resolutions. This resolution has been tabled and was put on this agenda for action. Perry Helt asked if the all three Commissioners would state for the record that there will be no funding given out of the general fund or other county taxpayer funds for the pursuit of this boondoggle. Will the Commissioner state for the record unequivocally that there will be no use of county taxpayer funds of any type for this project. Commissioner Hamilton replied that this is not obligating any county funds through this resolution for Stillwater County to have a seat at the table from any source. Motion passed unanimously.

C) Resolution 2021-18 approving the budget for FY2021-2022. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve Resolution 2021-18 approving the budget for FY21-22. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. Discussion – Jerry Friend stated that the Treasurers office has received the downloads for both the real and the centrally assessed properties so market values should be available in the near future. Shirlee Keffer asked what is the total amount for the budget. Joe Morse replied that the total amount for levied funds is \$9,801,954.00. The total budget is approximately \$25,000,000.00 with all the special revenues. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON COUNTY BUSINESS – Shirlee Keffer stated that she would like to address the Commissioners who are duly elected by “We the People” about voter integrity. Shirlee would like to ask the Commissioners to send a letter to the Governor, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General to demand to have foresight audits in six counties being, Missoula, Flathead, Lewis & Clark, Cascade, Gallatin and Yellowstone. The news has reported that voter fraud has been discovered in the county of Missoula. One illegal vote is one to many and one machine error, flipping a vote is one to many. The American people know there is voter fraud and we know that there is voter fraud in Montana, whether you want to accept it or not. Unless we can secure elections of 2020, there is no going forward. Either we correct what has happened or America will fall to Marxism and Shirlee asked that the Commission represent us as “We the People” of Stillwater County to direct the letter requested. Every day another revolution is coming up from what has taken place in the 2020 election. Shirlee stated that she would follow up with the Commission to see if this will be pursued by her representatives.

With no further comments heard the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

APPROVED BY: /s/ Mark Crago, Commissioner Chairman
ATTEST: Heidi L. Stadel, Clerk and Recorder